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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/897,730 | 07/03/2001 | Takashi Yasujima | 49275-061 | 8172 |

7590 01/03/2005
 MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY
 600 13th Street, N.W.
 Washington, DC 20005-3096

EXAMINER

FOREMAN, JONATHAN M

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
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3736

DATE MAILED: 01/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action

Application No.

09/897,730

Applicant(s)

YASUJIMA ET AL.

Examiner

Jonathan ML Foreman

Art Unit

3736

--Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on th cover sheet with the correspondenc address --

THE REPLY FILED 07 December 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. ☐ A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
- (a) ☐ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 - (b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
 - (c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 - (d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____

3. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
4. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. ☒ The a) ☐ affidavit, b) ☐ exhibit, or c) ☒ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the _____ application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.
6. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. ☐ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) ☐ will not be entered or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____

Claim(s) objected to: _____

Claim(s) rejected: _____

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____

8. ☐ The drawing correction filed on _____ is a) ☐ approved or b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
9. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____
10. ☐ Other: _____

JMLF

MAX F. HINDENBURG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Applicant has asserted that the electrodes as disclosed by Clark (US 6,280,396) do not have a shape and size such that an error derived from a change in a posture caused by a difference in a height can be minimized. However, the Examiner disagrees. Clark discloses electrodes meeting all of the structural limitations set forth in the claims (rod-like; arranged and fixed lengthwise). The Examiner maintains that the limitation "such that an error derived from a change in a posture caused by a difference in a height can be minimized" is a functional limitation fully capable of being performed by the electrodes as disclosed by Clark. Applicant has argued that no appreciable error would occur where a difference in a height is as little as 1/4 inch. The Examiner maintains that the error due to the change in height in this case, no matter how insignificant, is capable of being minimized by the electrodes as disclosed by Clark. It is noted that the features upon which applicant relies to distinguish the invention from prior art (i.e., the difference in height between a child and adult; the relationship of the arms with respect to the heart and hands) are not recited in the rejected claim(s).